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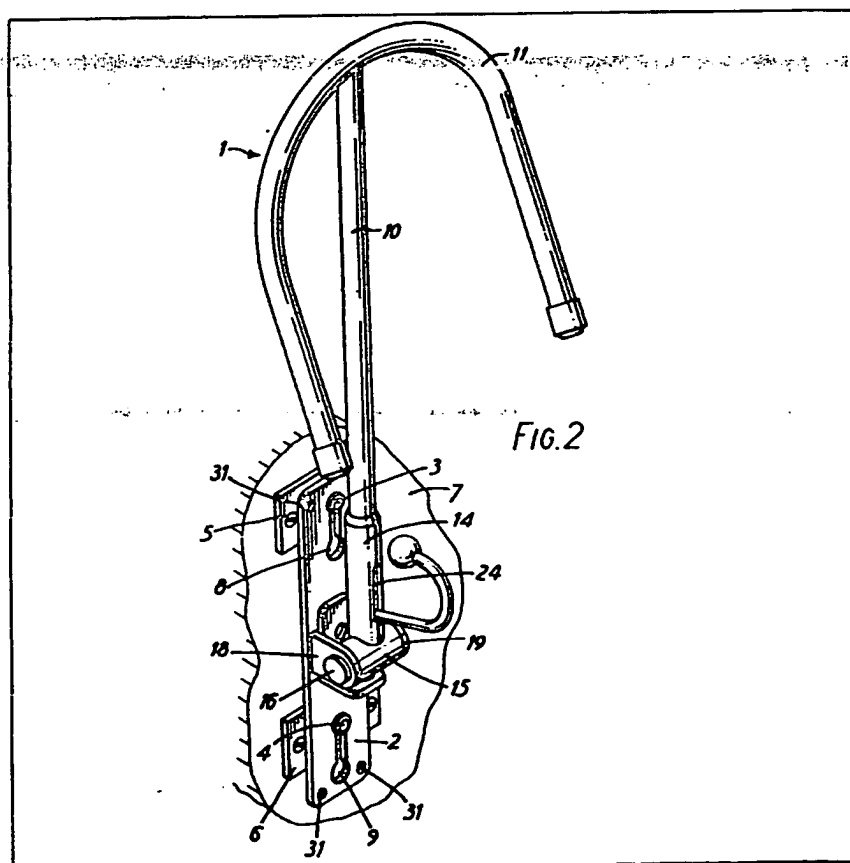
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(54) Saddle rack

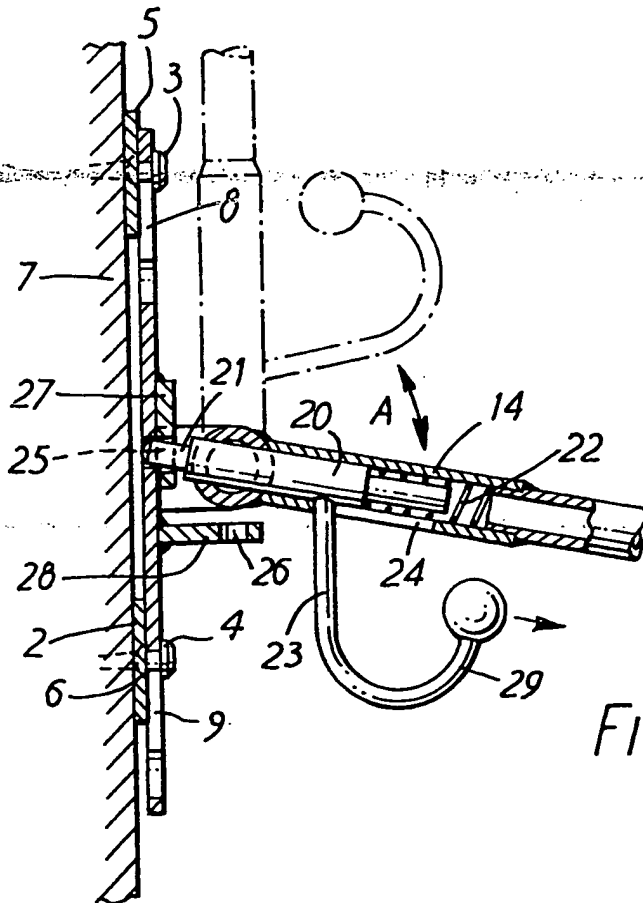
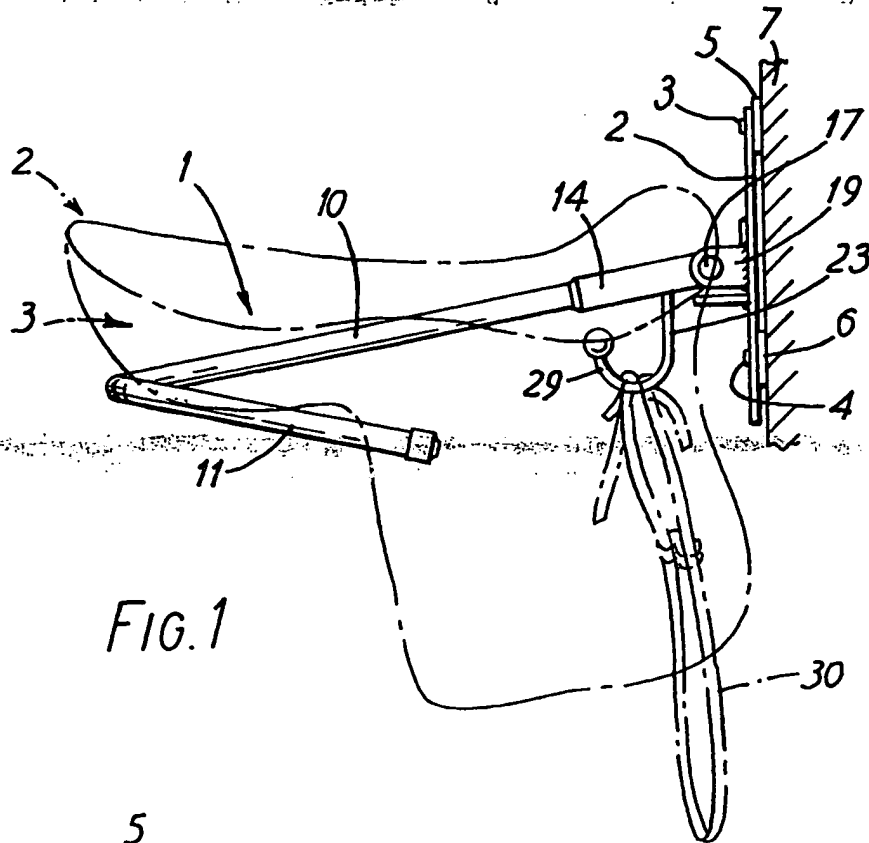
(57) A portable saddle rack consists of:— an arm 1 pivoted to a mounting plate 2 about a horizontal axis; a spring-biased bolt slidable on the arm to engage selectively either of two recesses to secure the arm in either a substantially horizontal, operative position or in a vertical inoperative position; and an operating handle for the bolt in the form of a hook for supporting other items; wherein the mounting member 2 is formed with a pair of key-hole-shaped slots 9 for engagement over projections 3 and 4 on a supporting surface 7.

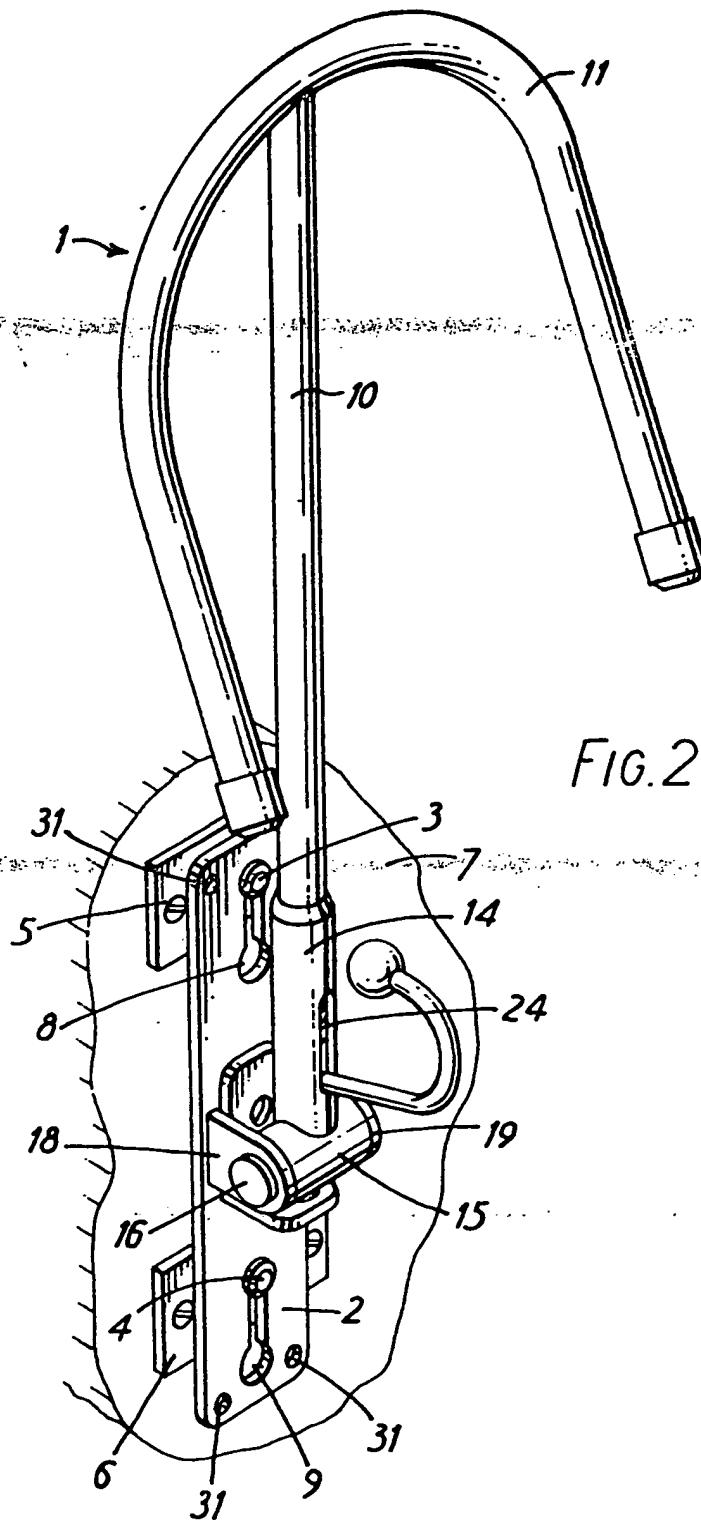


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SPECIFICATION

Saddle rack

- 5 The present invention relates to racks for supporting saddles and other riding tack.

In accordance with a first aspect of the invention there is provided a rack for supporting a saddle, the rack having a saddle supporting arm pivotally attached to a mounting member, the arm being swingable between an operative orientation and an inoperative orientation in which the arm is substantially vertical, and locking means for locking the arm at least in its upper orientation.

- 10 Advantageously, the saddle supporting arm is tubular and the locking means includes a bolt slidable in the tube and resiliently urged to project from the tube into a recess in the mounting member in the upper orientation of the arm. Preferably there is a locking recess for each of the operative and inoperative orientations.

- Conveniently, an operating handle for the bolt project through an axial slot in the tube wall. Advantageously, the slot is in the underside of the arm when the latter is in its operative orientation and then downwardly extending handle terminates in a hook formation for supporting other tack such as bridle.

- In accordance with a second aspect of the invention there is provided a rack for supporting a saddle, the rack having a saddle supporting arm attached to a mounting member and the mounting member having a set of spaced apart apertures for engagement with a set of headed projections on a wall surface on which the rack is to be mounted, lower portions of the apertures being large enough to permit the passage therethrough of the heads of the projections and upper portions of the apertures small enough to prevent such passage.

- Advantageously, a plate or plates fixed to the wall surface carry a set of headed projections for engagement with the apertures in the mounting members. By providing sets of headed projections at different locations, the rack can readily be transferred from one such location to another.

- The aspects, preferably in combination, provide a simple saddle and bridle rack which can be used at one permanent location or used temporarily at a number of locations and can be folded to the stowed orientation when not in use.

- Conveniently, the saddle-supporting arm slopes downwardly from the mounting and has a curved rigidly attached to its free end, this curved portion having wires sloping downwards and towards the mounting and on which a saddle can be placed with the pommel next to the mounting, the arm along the gullet and the seat pads supported by the wings of the curved portion.

An embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which;

- 70 *Figure 1* is a side view of a saddle rack, with a saddle and bridle shown in broken lines,

- Figure 2* is a perspective view of the saddle rack shown in Fig. 1 in its inoperative position, and

- Figure 3* shows a vertical section through a portion of the rack shown in Fig. 1, the saddle supporting arm being shown in broken lines in its inoperative position and in full lines in its operative position.

- The saddle rack 1 shown in the drawings comprises a rectangular, upright mounting member 2 detachably mounted on two headed projections 3, 4 carried on plates 5, 6 and for this purpose the mounting member 2 has key hole slots 8, 9. These plates 5, 6 are shown permanently fixed by means of counter-sunk screws (not numbered), to a wall surface 7.

- A saddle supporting arm comprises a shaft 10 shown in Fig. 1 in its operative orientation in which it slopes downwardly away from the mounting member 2. A U-shaped portion 11 is welded to the free end of the shaft 10 with the horns of the U sloping downwards and towards the wall surface 7.

- A saddle 12 is shown supported on the rack 1 with the gullet resting on the shaft 10 and the seat pads 13 supported by the U portion 11.

- The arm can be swung in the direction of the arrow A (Fig. 3) from the operative orientation shown in Fig. 1 to the vertical, inoperative orientation shown in Fig. 2. For this purpose, the shaft 6 has an enlarged tubular end portion 14 welded to a boss 15.

- The boss 15 is extended at each end by reduced diameter trunnions 16, 17 rotatably engaged in apertures in respective trunnion plates 18, 19 welded to the mounting member 12. A bolt 20 is axially slidable in the end portion 14 through the boss 15 and is axially biased out of the boss 15 by a spring 22. The extent of movement of the bolt 20 is limited by abutment of an operating handle 23 attached thereto with the ends of an axial slot 24 cut in the underside of the end portion 14 seen in its operative position.

- A nose 21 on the bolt 20 can engage in first and second recesses 25, 26 in respective lock plates 27, 28 welded parallel to and perpendicular to the mounting plate 2 respectively.

- The first recess 25 is behind the boss 15 and the second recess 26 is beneath the boss 15. In the operative position the nose 21 engages in the first recess 25 and by drawing back the bolt 20 with handle 23 the saddle supporting arm can be swung to its inoperative position whereupon, the handle

23 can be released to engage the nose 21 in the second recess 26.

As shown in Fig. 1 the downwardly extending handle 23 terminates in a hook formation 29 suitable for supporting a bridle 30.

If permanent fixing of the rack 1 directly to the wall surface 7 is required it can be screwed directly to the wall surface 7 through permanent fixing holes 31 at each corner of the mounting member 2.

In use, sets of plates 5, 6 can be mounted on both an inside and an outside wall of a horsebox. The saddle 12 and bridle 30 can be supported on the rack 1 mounted on the set inside the box when driving to an event and transferred to the set on the outside of the box on arrival in a convenient position for saddling up. Thereafter, the arm can be raised to its inoperative position.

CLAIMS

1. A rack for supporting a saddle, the rack having a saddle supporting arm pivotally attached to a mounting member, the arm being swingable between an operative orientation and an inoperative orientation in which the arm is substantially vertical, and locking means for locking the arm at least in its upper orientation.

2. A rack according to claim 1, wherein the saddle supporting arm is tubular and the locking means includes a bolt slidable in the tube and resiliently urged to project from the tube into a recess in the mounting member in the upper orientation of the arm.

3. A rack according to claim 2, wherein the mounting member has a locking recess for each of the operative and inoperative orientations.

4. A rack according to any of the preceding claims, wherein an operating handle for the bolt projects through an axial slot in the tube wall.

5. A rack according to claim 4, wherein the slot is in the underside of the arm when the latter is in its operative orientation and the downwardly extending handle terminates in a hook formation for supporting other tack such as a bridle.

6. A rack according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the mounting member has a set of spaced apertures for engagement with a set of headed projections on a wall surface on which the rack is to be detachably mounted, lower portions of the apertures being large enough to permit the passage there-through of the heads of the projections and upper portions of the apertures small enough to prevent such passage.

7. A rack for supporting a saddle, the rack having a saddle supporting arm attached to a mounting member and the mounting member having a set of spaced apertures for engagement with a set of headed projections on a wall surface on which the rack is to be

mounted, lower portions of the apertures being large enough to permit the passage there-through of the heads of the projections and upper portions of the apertures small enough to prevent such passage.

8. A rack according to claim 6 or 7, wherein a plate or plates fixed to the wall surface carry a set of headed projections for engagement with the apertures in the mounting member.

9. A rack according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the saddle-supporting arm in its operative position slopes downwardly from the mounting and has a curved portion rigidly attached to its free end, this curved portion having wings sloping downwards and towards the mounting and on which a saddle can be placed with the pommel next to the mounting, the arm along the gullet and the seat pads supported by the wings of the curved portion.

10. A rack for supporting a saddle, substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings.

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